

Date August 6, 2001 Label: 856453750US

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Sandra Stocklinski

Name (Print)

Sandra Stocklinski

Signature

SAD
#2A
9.24.01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: MICHALUK, et al.

09/923815

Continuation Application No. Unassigned

Parent Group Art Unit: 1742

Filed: August 6, 2001

Parent Examiner: Oltmans, A.

For: HIGH PURITY TANTALUM, PRODUCTS CONTAINING THE SAME, AND METHODS OF MAKING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

August 6, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 2, after the title, please insert the following paragraph:

--This application is a continuation of prior U.S. Patent Application No. 09/199,569 filed November 25, 1998.--
now U.S. Patent No. 6,348,113

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 44-62 and 67-77 without disclaimer or prejudice of the subject matter set forth therein.